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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Appln. Series No: 09/706,382

Appln filed: 11/06/00

Applicant: J. T. Lin

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7/6/01

Title: Apparatus and Methods for the Treatment of Presbyopia using Fiber-coupled Lasers

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance (B) (submitted on July 16, 2001)

Examiner: David Burd/3739

Assistant Commissioner for Patent

Patent Office, DC

Dear Sir:

In response to your Office Action mailed on 06/28/01 and Notice of non-Compliant Amendment mailed on 07/10/01, please find Amendment below.

(I) Clean Version of replacements:

SPECIFICATION:

page 5: line 11 " pulse on scleral surface.... "

line 12 " on the scleral plane..... "

line 16 " scanned over the scleral surface "

page 6: line 13 " along the sclera radial direction "

CLAIMS:

1. A method, adaptable for performing presbyopic correction, in which a portion of the sclera tissue is removed by steps of:

(a) selecting a laser beam having a predetermined wavelength;

(b) selecting a beam spot controller mechanism, said beam spot controller to reduce and focus said laser beam to a fiber delivery unit;

(c) controlling the said fiber delivery unit to deliver said laser beam in a said predetermined pattern onto a plurality of positions on the scleral surface to remove portion of the sclera tissue outside the limbus area, whereby a presbyopic patient's vision is corrected to see near by increasing the accommodation of the eye.

2. A method of claim 1, wherein said laser beam is an ultraviolet laser having a wavelength range of about (0.15 - 0.36) microns and a pulse duration less than about 200 nanoseconds.

3. A method of claim 1, wherein said laser beam is an infrared laser having a wavelength range of about (1.4 - 3.2) microns.

4. A method of claim 3, wherein infrared laser is an optically pumped Erbium:YAG laser having a wavelength of about 2.9 microns.

5. A method of claim 1, wherein said laser beam is an ArF excimer laser having a wavelength of 193 nm.

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